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My personal memories of Roger Roy

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My Mantodea project (insects, praying mantises) began in October 1980 in Berlin, in collaboration with Kurt Harz† (22 03 1915- 20 09 1996) (1983 Endsee (Steinsfeld), Germany), Kurt K. Günther† (08 03 1930 – 24 07 2021) from 1984 Museum Berlin (MFNB) and Alfred Peter Kaltenbach† (13 04 1929 – 24 09 2005) 1984 (Museum Vienna (NHMW), and through the latter the link was established with the scientist Roger Roy at the Dakar Museum (IFAN), Senegal. My first contact with Roger Roy was in December 1986, and a short time later Roger Roy began working as a researcher at the Paris (MNHN) Museum.

My work as an entomological taxidermist at the State Historical Museum in Karlsruhe (SMNK) began in 1996.

Roger Roy encouraged me to revise the 1927 catalog of Ermanno Giglio-Tos, Das Tierreich, Mantidae. In 1987 I bought the book from Giglio-Tos. After 15 years, in 2002, in collaboration with Roger Roy, my book appeared: "Mantodea – Gottesanbeterinnen der Welt".

The Karlsruhe Museum featured annual Mantodea conferences from 2002 to 2005, and during his visit from October 6-8, 2003 Roger Roy used the opportunity to view the extensive Mantodea collection, and also to get to know us personally.

At that time I was the taxidermist of the SMNK and responsible for the Mantodea collection. With the support of conference attendee Kai Schütte from the Hamburg Museum (ZMH), we helped Roger Roy in his assessment of the existing Mantodea collection of more than ten thousand specimens (placed in 450 boxes of 50 x 40 cm). Due to time constrictions, he was of course only able to look at a part of the exhibit in order to identify them.

In the years 2006-2019 I made nine trips to Paris with my wife Cornelia and during these visits to Roger Roy there were also meetings with his colleagues Emmanuel Delfosse, Philippe Grandcolas (Museum Paris) and Bruno Mériguet (from 77000 Vaux-le-Pénil, France), as well as with Kai Schütte Museum Hamburg (ZMH), Henrique M. Rodrigues and Gavin, J. Svenson both with the Museum Cleveland (CMNH). In December 2013, R. Ehrmann and Matthias Borer Museum Basel (NMB) visited Roger Roy in Paris. An important topic of discussion were the Mantodea from Angola and the Arabian Peninsula. The revision of the Mantodea system was also addressed.

For these trips to Paris, Mantodea specimens related to Roger Roy's specific work topics were borrowed from the SMNK and presented to him in Paris for his (him to) review.

Thanks to this very productive collaboration with Roger Roy, the SMNK was able to add 59 type specimens and 103 slides with genital preparations to its Mantodea collection. In his numerous publications, Roger Roy also acknowledged the excellent collaboration with Reinhard Ehrmann from the Karlsruhe Museum (SMNK).

And so it was a great honor for me that Roger Roy described two mantids with my name: Mantilia ehrmanni Roy, 1992 (1993) (leg. R. Ehrmann, SMNK-Mant-Nr. 05068-05071-no types) and

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Tismomorpha reinhardi Roy, 2012 (leg. R. Ehrnann SMNK-Mant-Nr. (male-PT-09000-gen.-prep. Roy-# 4279), (male-HT. 09001), (female-AT-09003).
Roger Roy was born on July 14, 1929 and passed away on March 31, 2023 at the age of 93.
It was a great enrichment and honor for me to be able to work with Roger Roy since 1986 . Our trusting Mantodea cooperation led to many interesting discoveries. These, and our friendship, were the starting point for many additional studies.
It is a great sadness to have lost him as a person, scientist and friend. My life would have been different if I had never met him. He will always remain in my grateful memory.

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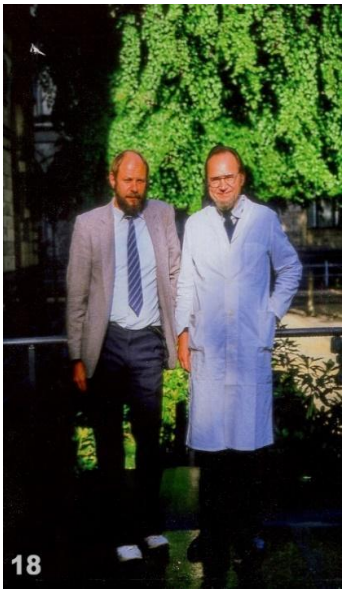
The Photos

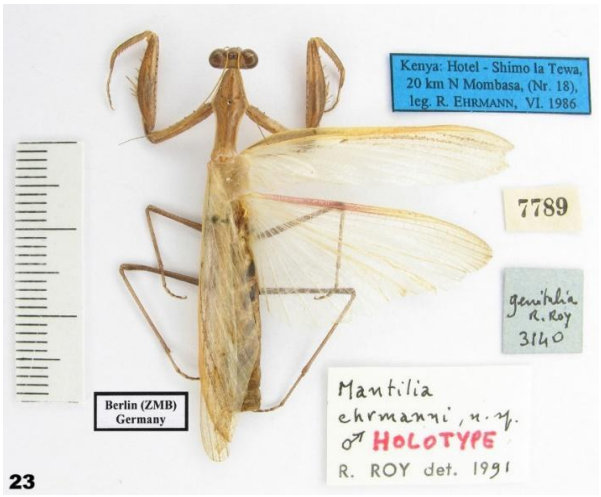
Bruno Mériguet, Vaux-le-Pénil, France; Emmanuel Delfosse, Museum Paris (MNHN); Gavin J. Svenson, Museum Cleveland (CMNH); Henrique Miranda Rodrigues, Museum Cleveland (CMNH); Kai Schütte, Museum Hamburg (ZMH); Kurt K. Günther, Museum Berlin (MFNB); Matthias Borer, Museum Basel (NMB); Philippe Grandcolas, Museum Paris (MNHN); Reinhard Ehrmann, Museum Karlsruhe (SMNK) and Roger Roy, Museum Paris (MNHN). All photos: ©Reinhard Ehrmann

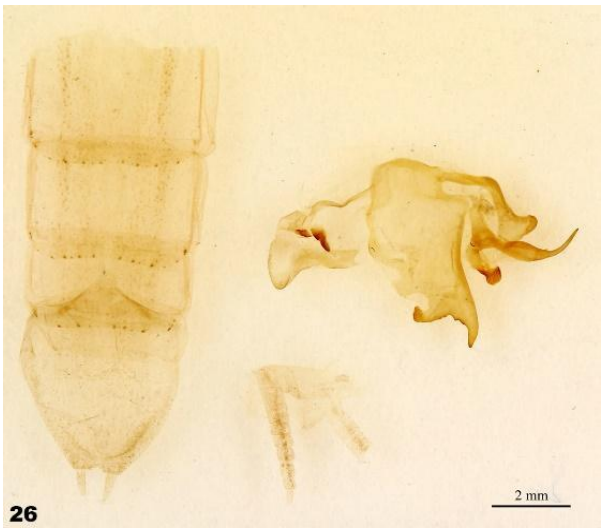
Figs: 1-R. Roy in Museum Paris. (03.iii.2014), **2-** R. Roy (left) and R. Ehrmann (right) in Museum Karlsruhe (06-08. x. 2003). **3-** R. Roy (left) and K. Schütte (right) in Museum Karlsruhe (06-08. x. 2003). **4-** R. Ehrmann (left) and R. Roy (right) in Museum Karlsruhe (06-08. x. 2003). **5-** R. Ehrmann (right), R. Roy (center) and K. Schütte (right) in Museum Paris (08-11. ii. 2006). **6-** R. Roy (left) and R. Ehrmann (right) in Museum Paris. (25-27. ii. 2006). **7-** left to right K. Schütte, R. Ehrmann, E. Delfosse, R. Roy and B. Mériguet in Museum Paris (18-21. vi. 2009).

Figs: 8- left to right R. Roy, Gavin J. Svenson, R. Ehrmann and P. Grandcolas in Museum Paris (02. ix. 2009). **9-** left R. Roy, right C. Ehrmann in Museum Paris (2011.xii.17-18.). **10-** R. Roy (left) and R. Ehrmann (right) in Museum Paris (17-18. xii. 2011). **11-** R. Roy in Museum Paris (17-18. xii. 2011). **12-** left to right R. Ehrmann, R. Roy and Henrique Miranda Rodrigues in Paris (07. vi. 2012). **13-** R. Roy (left) and R. Ehrmann (right) in Museum Paris (14-15. xii. 2013).

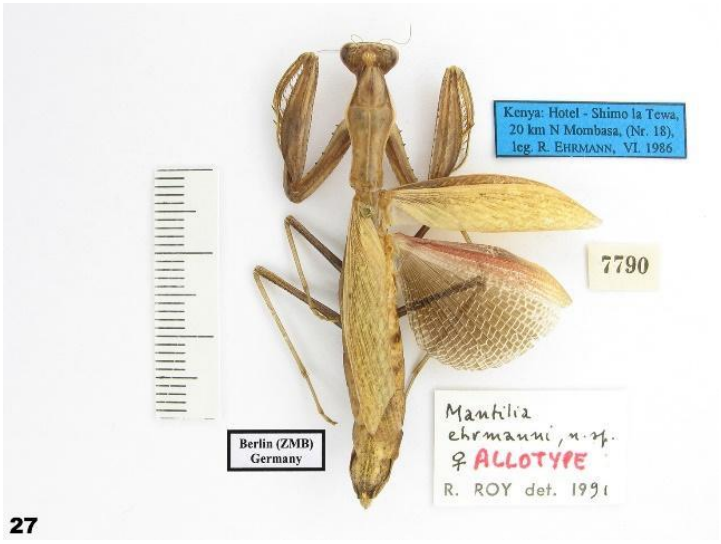


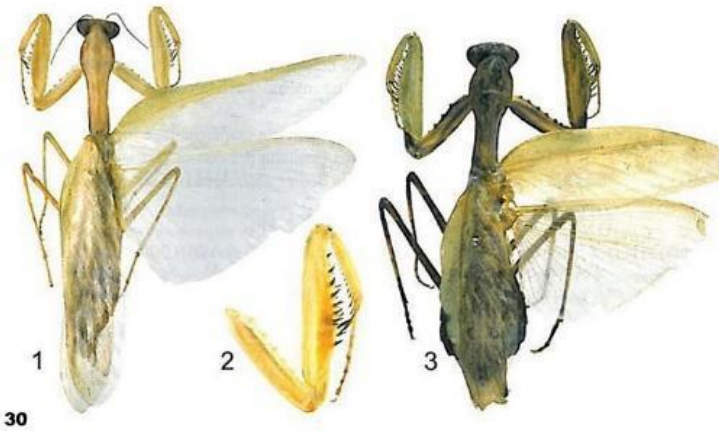
Figs: 14-R. Roy (left) and M. Borer (right) in Museum Paris (14-15. xii. 2013). **15-** M. Borer (left) and R. Roy (right) in Musum Paris (14-15. xii. 2013). **16-** R. Ehrmann (left) and R. Roy (right) in Paris (14-15. xii. 2013). **17-** R. Ehrmann (left) and R. Roy (right) in Paris (08. vi. 2019). **18-** R. Ehrmann (left) Berlin and Kurt K. Günther (right) from Museum Berlin (August, 1984). **19-** Hanna and Kurt Harz in Endsee/Steinsfeld), Germany (21-23. xi. 1983). **20**- R. Ehrmann (left) and Heinz Karbaum (1933-2018) (right) in Berlin (27. ii. 2016).





Figs: 21-26. *Mantilia ehrmanni* Roy; **21-** male, Kenya: Shimo la Tewa (3.57S-39.44E), 20 km N Mombasa, leg. R.Ehrmann, April, 1986. **22-** female, Kenya: Shimo la Tewa (3.57S-39.44E), 20 km N Mombasa, leg. R. Ehrmann, April,1986. **23-**Holotype (male), dorsal in coll. Berlin-MFNB-#-7789. **24-** Holotype (male), ventral in coll. Berlin-MFNB-#-7789). **25-** Holotype (male), head from the front, in coll. Berlin-MFNB-#-7789. **26-** Holotype (male), in coll. Berlin-MFNB -#-7789, gen.-prep-Roy-#3140.





Figs: **27- 30.** Allotype the Mantilia ehrmanni Roy. **27-** dorsal in coll. Berlin-MFNB-#-7790. **28-** ventral in coll. Berlin-MFNB-#-7790. **29-**head from the front, in coll. Berlin-MFNB-#-7790. **30-** from the publication, modified: Roy R., 2012 (Page 76 - Fig. 1-3. - *Tismomorpha reinhardi* n. sp. – 1. male holotype (09001) dorsal, 2. ventral side of the left forelimb of the holotype, 3. Female allotype (09003) dorsal).

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